Experiences shape professor’s viewpoints

BY WANDA LAUKKANEN

As a university student, Lorelle Browning experienced first hand the trauma of dissent and chaos on American campuses caused by the United States involvement in the Vietnam War. Now, as a professor of English and peace and justice studies at Pacific, she uses those experiences to promote understanding between the cultures of Vietnam and the United States.

Browning is recognized as a renowned non-native expert on Vietnamese theatre. Over the past 19 years, she has traveled 25 times to Vietnam, collaborating and co-producing numerous theatre productions involving both Vietnamese and American professional actors in Vietnam and the U.S.

Browning has also taught American and British drama at several universities in Hanoi, Hue and Ho Chi Minh City, and has led Pacific students on study trips there. She works closely with international Vietnamese students who are studying at Pacific and was a fellow during the tumultuous start-up year of Tan Tao University, a new private liberal arts college in the south.

In April, she lectured in Paris at a plenary panel on “Adapting Shakespeare’s Structural and Performance Rhythms to Dance and Opera.” During the 2014-15 academic year, she'll be utilizing her second yearlong U.S. Scholar Fulbright grant. She plans to conduct research about theatre artists performing propaganda plays in Vietnamese jungles for National Liberation Front and North Vietnamese Army troops who were fighting French and American forces. She will also teach American drama at Hanoi Academy of Theatre and Cinema and at other universities.

Browning previously spent a year collaborating with theatre companies and teaching in Vietnam during her first Fulbright grant in 2002-03. An award-winning film, A Dream in Hanoi, was released in 2001, featuring Browning and Vietnamese artists mounting a bilingual production of A Midsummer Night's Dream. The film was aired on PBS and

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LINK television repeatedly.

In addition to the two Fulbright grants, Browning has raised more than $1 million in grants to fund her theatre collaborations, research and travel from the Ford Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, the U.S. State Department and other sources.

When she was an undergraduate student at the University of California, Santa Barbara in 1970, Browning said that during an anti-war demonstration, students and other protesters burned the Bank of America building to the ground in Isla Vista, the college student town immediately adjacent to the university.

The National Guard, summoned by then Governor Reagan, came in dump trucks, wearing riot gear and carrying bayonets, basically occupying the town for three months together with the Santa Barbara and Los Angeles sheriffs' departments, she said.

During those three months, the UC Santa Barbara campus was closed. No courses were taught and no students were allowed on campus, Browning said. Instead, students met at professors’ houses or in the parks, studying “crisis” courses. The National Guard imposed a 7 p.m. curfew requiring all Isla Vista residents to be in their homes by that time every evening.

One of Browning’s close friends, Kevin Moran, was killed during that occupation. Browning said her friend had been trying to quiet the protesters, who were throwing rocks at the trailer that Bank of America relocated on the ashes of the original building. Apparently a rifle shot went awry, and he died on the scene. Browning was devastated by his loss, she said, and began to realize just how dangerous and intense this stand off had become.

During this time, Browning saw many people be clubbed, beaten and dragged away to jail by police, including her two roommates, who had made the mistake of standing on their porch one night after the curfew deadline. She herself was never arrested, but was hit in the head with a police baton and pepper sprayed during a massive demonstration in a park protesting the curfew. Some 654 people that night were jailed, she said, but by morning, the curfew had been lifted permanently and the National Guard withdrew. The demonstration had succeeded.

“That was my radicalizing moment, despite my being such a novice in political activism,” she acknowledged. “By then, the only moral order in my life — as I watched the sheriffs and National Guard inciting the riots and violence — was Shakespeare. I had a wonderful professor who helped us appreciate the morality and justice Shakespeare explored in his plays. Reading and performing his works gave me hope.” Read more online at: pacificu.edu/lorelle-browning

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Sabbaticals, Tenure and Promotion, Fall 2014

**SABBATICALS**

PAIGE BAUGHIER, Biology, “Molecular Death Pathways Activated in Response to Aminolevulinic Acid – Mediated Photodynamic Therapy in Human Osteosarcoma Cells.”

KEVIN CARR, Education, “Conducting action research on the linkages between science teaching and the development of language literacy in high school classrooms. Devoting significant, focused time to conducting classroom and field research alongside high school pre- and in-service teachers will result in an enhanced understanding of how science curricula can be used to drive the development of academic language literacy in high-needs student populations.”


ANDREW DAWES, Physics, "Quantum Key Distribution in Free Space Optical Links."

JEANNE-SARAH DE LARQUIER, World Languages, “Exploring and Presenting the Works of Contemporary French Author Marie Nimier.”

ISAAC GILMAN, Library, “Development of an Organizational Model for Integrated Library-based Publishing Services.”

DEKE GUNDERSON, Biology, “Organochlorine exposure and health effects in stranded Steller sea lions (Eumetopias jubatus) and harbor seals (Phoca vitulina) from Oregon and Washington coasts.”

JOHN R. HAYES, Optometry, “Consolidation and Publication of Current Work on the Etiology of Myopia and Macular Degeneration with the Development of Infrastructure for Future Studies.”

CATHARINE KIM, Education, “Write a text, entitled, ‘Korea-English Bilinguals in America’ as well as a research article from Title II NPD ESTEM grant that investigates the classroom observation data.”

NANCY KRUSEN, Occupational Therapy, “The Development of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning for Health Professions.”

CHRIS LANE, Mathematics, “Motley Math Machinations.”


SUSAN LITTLEFIELD, Optometry, “Focus on Refractive Surgery.”


JIM MOORE, Politics and Government, “Governor Atiyeh biography.”


GYORGY NYERGES, Biology, “Abundance and activity of methane associated microorganisms in the Lateral Bays of the Columbia River Estuary.”

JON SCHNORR, Biology, “Measuring the frequency of an Aldehyde dehydrogenase polymorphism using high resolution melting temperature analysis in an undergraduate teaching laboratory” and “Metagenomic annotation of a mesophilic root-colonizing Crenarchaeote and its companion mixed–species assemblage.”

REBECCA SCHULTE, Education, “Collaboration between general and special education teacher candidates to support access to learning for students with disabilities in general education classrooms.”

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ELLEN BASS, MFA, has been chosen as the poet laureate for Santa Cruz County, Calif. A long-time resident of Santa Cruz, she has had her poems published in hundreds of journals and anthologies. Her new book of poetry, Like a Beggar, was recently published by Copper Canyon Press.

JULES BOYKOFF, Politics and Government, wrote a guest opinion piece for The Oregonian in February titled, “Portland’s fortunate failure to land the 1968 Olympics.”

DANIEL EISEN, Sociology, presented his research at the Hawai’i Sociological Association meeting in February. He also lectured on “The Distorted Looking Glass: Struggles with the Radicalized Self and a Filipin(o) Identity” at Honolulu Community College as part of its social science speaker series.

LINDA HUNT, Occupational Therapy, and her story of visiting her father’s homeland in Lithuania, was featured recently in The Oregonian. She is also the creator of From Where I Came, a website where people can record and share stories and photos about traveling to the homes of their ancestors.

PAM HOUSTON, MFA, presented a talk at the Mt. Hood Community College’s Creative Writing Speaker Series in March.

DORIANNE LAUX and JOSEPH MILLAR, MFA, both presented poetry readings March 10 at New York City’s KGB Bar’s poetry read.


ROBERT NEE, Physical Therapy, presented a breakout session at the Oregon Physical Therapy Association annual conference in April. The title of his talk was “Neurodynamic treatment of nerve-related neck and arm pain: benefits, harms and patient selection.”

DARLENE PAGAN, English, has had poems appear in several journals, including Fourteen Hills, Field Magazine, Tar River Poetry, New Verse News and After Hours: A Journal of Chicago Writing and Art. Her full-length collection of poems, Setting the Fire, will be published in early 2016 by Airlie Press.

DON SCHWEITZER, Social Work, chaired the planning committee for the 2014 NW Social Field Consortium in late January. This spring, he has been invited to give the plenary presentation at the Fifth Annual Homeless Workforce Conference in Richmond, Calif.

JIM SHEEDY, Optometry, is serving on the advisory board for VisionCareInventing.com. The online venture serves as a resource for optical inventors.

DON SCHWEITZER, Social Work, “Disconnected Youth.”

ROBIN SHALLCROSS, Professional Psychology, “Building International Bridges: Developing Tele-Education Opportunities for Professional Psychology using Flipped Classroom Techniques.”

MARK SZYMANSKI, Education, “Serve as lead researcher and facilitator on The Crossroads Project, the Eugene School District 4j district-wide 1:1 mobile technology implementation project.”

ENIE VAISBURD, MFA, “As Raizes da Mangueria — Crescendo na comunidade de Niterói” (The Roots of the Mango Tree — Growing up at the Jewish Community Center in Niterói, Brazil).”

MARIANA VALENZUELA, World Languages, “Developing a Curriculum for Heritage Speaker Students.”

DON SCHWEITZER, Social Work, associate professor

BI SCOTT, Professional Psychology, associate professor

PROFESSOR JEFF FORTNER, Pharmacy, associate professor

ISAAC GILMAN, Library, associate professor

JANN PURDY, French, associate professor

SARAH WHITE, Pharmacy, associate professor

SHEREEN KHOJA, Computer Science, full professor

ERICA KLEINKNECHT, Psychology, full professor

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May Birthdays

1 Keith Neal 8 Marsha Auerbach 17 Harold Roark 25 Ashley Blanchard
1 Justin Fritz 9 Steve Park 18 Joel Gohdes 26 Alma Mattocks
1 Caitlyn Nelson 10 Paula Thatcher 18 Karlen Suga 26 Pamela
2 Becca Fischer 10 Shesna Calkins 18 Marshall Knodberbane 26 Michalowski
2 Joe Neill 11 Stephen Shores 19 Gail Needham 28 Janine Vuylsteke
2 Donna Phillips 12 Valerie King 19 Kaitlyn Varuska 28 Nancy Cicirello
2 Brendan Stamper 13 Lynda Irons 19 Judy Cook 28 Doyle Walls
3 Dennis Simonsen 13 Edna Gehring 19 Patrick LaSalle 28 Peter Morgan
4 Heather Block 13 Lindsey Olson 19 Kimber Johns 28 Susan Li
4 Steve Mason 13 Aurae Beidler 19 Tiffany Boggis 29 Adam LaMotte
5 Pam Kawasaki 14 Shelley Jorgensen 20 Nancy Neudauer 30 Vicki Simmons
6 Kay Irish 15 John White Jr 20 Lisa Goren 30 John Gross
6 Landon Poppleton 15 Susan Dale 30 Kieran Bennett
6 Christine 30 Brandon Browning
Young-Gerber 15 Nada Lingel 30 Anne Reed
7 Jim Flory 15 Ludean Sanchez-Gutierrez 31 Meghan Dion
7 Joselyne Perry 15 Henderson 21 Steve Klein 31 Joyce Gabriel
7 Blake Timm 15 Brian Jackson 22 Charles Pickett 31 Marc Moody
7 David Widen 15 Alicia Gonzalez 23 Thomas Andrews 31 George
7 Grant OComie 16 John Suroviak 23 Jeff Seward 31 Harshbarger
7 Rusty Tennant 16 Jim Fleming 25 Stacey Halpern
8 Robin Shobe 17 Gary Godsil 25 Laurie Lundy-Ekman
8 Amber Buhler 17 Melissa Vieira

Volunteers Needed for Annual Party for Graduating Seniors

Volunteers are needed to help out at Pacific’s annual party for graduating seniors Wednesday, May 14. The Office of Alumni Relations, along with several other Pacific departments, are welcoming graduating students to the Pacific University Alumni Association with a party featuring food, drinks and fun in the University Center dining area on the Forest Grove Campus.

Volunteers are needed beginning at 4 p.m. The Senior Salute begins at 5 p.m. and approximately 300 students are expected. Also needed are volunteers for cleanup, which usually starts around 8 p.m. Contact Meredith Brynteson, assistant director of annual giving, at 503-352-2144 or meredithb@pacificu.edu.

Click Here and Get a Quick Peek!

Pacific’s new website is a work in progress. Take a quick look to see what’s new! More to come later.